

Dr. Noel F. Pearson  
M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.,  
D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.

Council Offices,  
Bimport,  
Shaftesbury,  
Dorset.

5th. June, 1946.

To: The Chairman and Councillors of  
the Shaftesbury Rural District.

Gentlemen and Madam,

I have the honour to submit the Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary circumstances of the Rural District for the year ended 31st. December, 1945.

The Report has been prepared, and will be circulated, in accordance with the requirements of Article 17(5) of the Sanitary Officers (Outside London) Regulations, 1935, and Ministry of Health Circular 49/45.

Dr. G. Bodley Scott was your temporary Medical Officer of Health during the year concerned. I am indebted to him, to the Sanitary Inspector and Waterworks Manager for the information embodied in this Report.

Whilst I consider that the conditions as revealed by the Report can, in general, be considered as satisfactory I feel that I must refer to the small amount of routine Sanitary work carried out during the year, particularly in relation to inspections under the Milk and Dairies Order, 1926 and the Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

You are already aware that your Sanitary Inspector cannot give the attention to routine Sanitary work which is necessary in the district and that only approximately 25% of his time is devoted to Sanitary work while the remainder of his time is occupied by other duties.

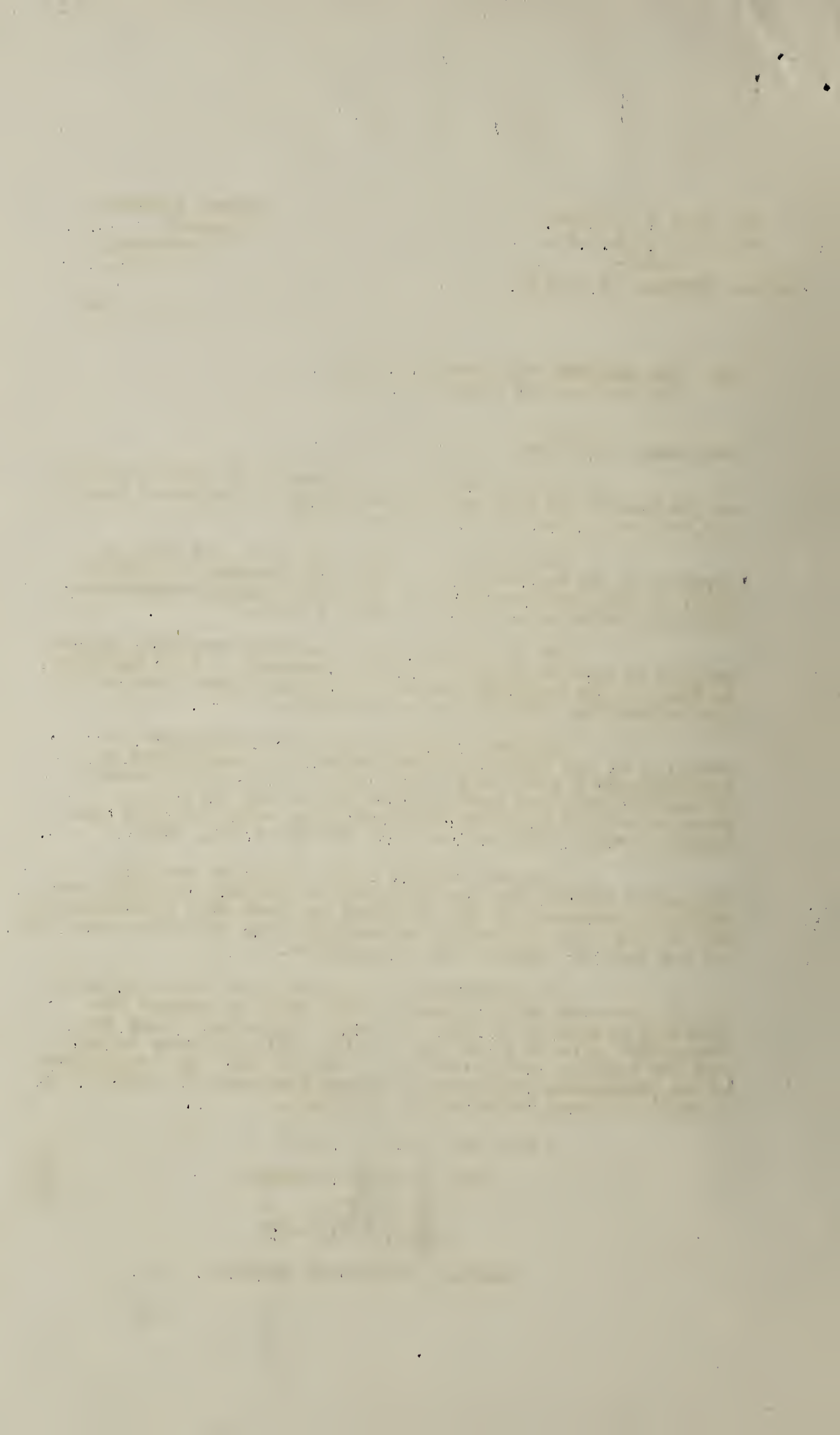
I appreciate the efforts that have been made in the past and are at present being made to augment the sanitary inspectorate but, if your obligations under the respective Acts of Parliament dealing with Sanitary matters and the Housing Survey are to be carried out, the appointment of an additional whole-time Sanitary Inspector in addition to a Pupil Sanitary Inspector is essential.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

*Noel F. Pearson*

Medical Officer of Health.



SHAFTESBURY RURAL DISTRICT

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR

THE YEAR

1945.

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A STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area - 42,000 acres

Rateable Value - £40,645

Sum represented by a penny rate - £177. 5s. 6d.

Extracts from Vital Statistics

Not yet available.





B. GENERAL SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES

Parish	Pop.	Water Supply	Public or Private	Chlor. or Unchlor.	Sewage Arrangements
Ashmore	198	Boyne	Public	Chlor.	None
Bourton	652	Springs	Private	Chlor.	Partly sewered & septic tanks.
Buckhorn Weston	336	Mere	Public	Chlor.	Council Houses Septic tank. Others none.
Cann	350	Boyne	Public	Chlor.	Council's Septic Tank & filter - mostly un-sewered.
Compton Abbas	199	Boyne	Public	Chlor.	None.
East Orchard	101	Boyne	Public	Chlor.	None.
East Stour	419	Gill. & Boyne	Public	Chlor.	Council Houses Septic Tank. Others None.
Fontmell Magna	448	Spring & Boyne	Private Public	Unchlor. Chlor.	None.
Gillingham	3274	Mere	Public	Chlor.	Sewers empty direct into Rivers Stour & Shreen, another into sedimentation tank & filter and thence to River Loddon.
Iwerne Minster	411	Boyne	Public	Chlor.	Sewered.
Kington Magna	312	Mere & Springs	Public & Private	Chlor. Unchlor.	None
Margaret Marsh	48	Boyne	Public	Chlor.	None.
Melbury Abbas	223	Boyne	Public	Chlor.	None.
Notcombe	685	Mere Boyne Springs	Public	Chlor.	None.
Silton	156	Springs	Private	Unchlor.	None.
Stour Provost	392	Boyne	Public	Chlor.	None.
Sutton Waldron	146	Boyne	Public	Chlor.	None.
Todber	111	Boyne	Public	Chlor.	None.
West Orchard	52	Boyne	Public	Chlor.	None.
West Stour	126	Spring Wells	Private	Unchlor.	None.



## C. WATER SUPPLIES

Supply	Public or Private (Name of Owner)	Chlor. or Unchlor.	Usual Bacterio- logical Condition
Bourton	Private (Mr. Hannam)	Chlor.	Satisfactory
Boyne Hollow	Public (Shaftesbury R.D.C.)	Chlor.	Highly satisfactory
Fontmell Magna	Private (Fontmell Magna Water Committee)	Unchlor.	Unsatisfactory
Gillingham	Public (Shaftesbury R.D.C.)	Chlor.	Highly satisfactory
Motcombe	Public (Shaftesbury R.D.C.)	Chlor.	Highly satisfactory
Silton	Private (Col. Troyte- Bullock)	Unchlor.	Unsatisfactory

### Gillingham

The deep well supply to Gillingham is quite sufficient for all requirements of that parish, and some water is passed into the Boyne Hollow Scheme to supply the parish of East Stour. The supply is also boosted to the parishes of Buckhorn Weston and Kington Magna, but at the present time this boosted supply is not sufficient for all requirements during very hot weather, when additional water is required for Agricultural purposes. To overcome this, temporarily, (pending the provision of the Council's contemplated post war scheme), a 10,000 gallon tank is to be erected at Bowden, Kington Magna, to provide additional storage.

The bacteriological and chemical quality of the water is satisfactory. The supply is sterilised by Chloramine treatment under Ministry of Health Circular 2086A dated 22nd. August, 1940.

### Boyne Hollow

The yield from this spring source has for the past four years decreased and at the present time is insufficient for the requirements of the area it serves, i.e. parishes of Ashmore, Cann, Compton Abbas, East Orchard, East Stour, Fontmell Magna, Iwerne Minster, Margaret Marsh, Melbury Abbas, part of Motcombe, Stour Provost, Sutton Waldron, Todber, West Orchard, Guy's Marsh, Military Hospital. The bacteriological and chemical quality of this water is satisfactory but is sterilised by Chloramine treatment under Ministry of Health Circular 2086A dated 22nd. August, 1940. To augment this scheme, the Council have carried out works at Melbury Abbas where water is collected from springs

### Bacteriological Examination

Bacteriological examination of all supplies carried out monthly.





## Water continued.....

and pumped to the reservoirs at Boyne Hollow. The bacteriological and chemical quality of this water is reasonably satisfactory. It is sterilised by chlorination.

### Motcombe

There is a small yield from springs on the Motcombe supply, insufficient for the requirements of that parish (including prisoner of War camp, No.47) but this supply is augmented from the Boyne source, and from the distributing mains of the Mere & Tisbury Rural District Council's supply. The quality is reasonably satisfactory, but is sterilised by Chloramine treatment.

It is intended that all the Council's supplies shall be constant and continuous, but during the very hot weather when the Agricultural demand was high, the supply was, in some parts of the district, intermittent due to the fact that the source was insufficient to meet the demand.

### Domestic Supply Details

Approx. number of Houses with piped water supply to house	2445
Approx. number of Houses with piped supply from a standpipe	120

### Works carried out during the year

No major works were carried out during the year, only short extensions to provide supplies to individual properties.

### Schemes contemplated

Erection of 10,000 gallon elevated tank at Kington Magna to provide additional storage. Extension of Gillingham scheme to provide a supply from Bourton and Silton. Exploratory works at the Mere source and scheme for the Northern part of the district based on the Mere source. Development of a new source in the Southern part of the district (probably a borehole at Stubhampton Bottom) to provide source of supply for the Southern part of the district and possibly adjoining districts.

## D. DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

### Sewerage Works owned by the Council

#### Gillingham

Old system of sewers emptying directly into the river.

There is a sedimentation tank and filter at Ham which arrests the larger solids but discharges an unsatisfactory effluent into the River Loddon.

#### Iwerne Minster

Modern sewage and disposal works.

#### Cann

Septic tank and filter for use at Brinscombe. This is owned by the Council.



Drainage and Sewerage continued....

Buckhorn Weston  
Septic tank for 8 Council Houses.

Bourton  
Septic tank for 8 Council Houses.

East Stour  
Septic tank for 12 Council Houses.

Works carried out during the year.

No new works were effected during the year. Extensive scraping of the sewer from the Gas Works at Gillingham with construction of manholes and flushing chambers was carried out.

New work contemplated.

A new sewage scheme for Gillingham has already been prepared, but is at the present time in abeyance.

Consultant Engineers have been asked by the Council to prepare a comprehensive scheme for the provision of adequate sewerage for the whole district. The Gillingham scheme will be incorporated in this.

E. PUBLIC REFUSE.

Local Arrangements made by the Council.

A weekly collection of refuse at Gillingham and monthly collection in the remaining parishes undertaken by the Council. Refuse is disposed of by controlled tipping at Bleet, near Gillingham.

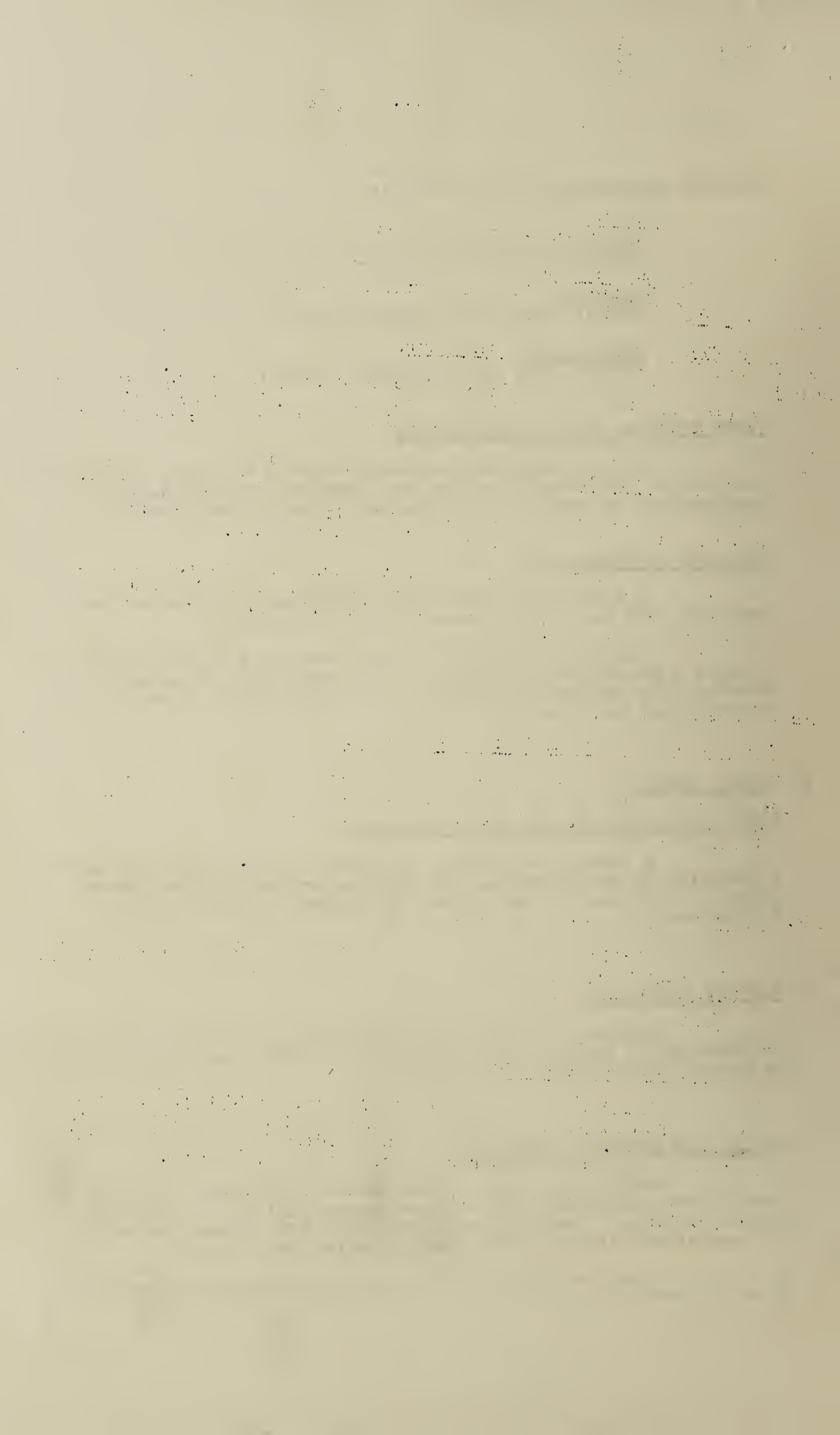
F. FACTORY EFFLUENTS.

Action was taken with Shaftesbury, Gillingham and District Gas Company to control rate of flow of a trade waste and to dilute it before discharging into sewers.

G. RIVERS AND STREAMS - POLLUTION.

Action was taken by the Council to remedy a nuisance arising from Clayesmore School sewerage polluting a stream at Iwerne Minster. The nuisance was remedied by school authorities by renovating disposal works and cleansing the stream.

A septic tank and filter was constructed at Northmoor Farm, Colesbrook.





H. NO. OF SANITARY INSPECTIONS CARRIED OUT DURING THE YEAR.

1. Total No. of inspections (under all loadings)	-	1257
Total No. of informal Notices served	-	159
Total No. of Informal Notices complied with	-	132
Total No. of Statutory Notices served	-	2
Total No. of Statutory Notices complied with	-	2
2. No. of inspections carried out during the year under :-		
(a) Factories Act	.....	9
(b) Shops Act	.....	Nil.

I. HOUSING

1. Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the year :-

(1) (a) No. of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under P.H. or Housing Acts)	-	62
(b) No. of inspections made for the purpose	-	128
(2) (a) No. of dwelling houses (included under (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925.	-	Nil.
(b) No. of inspections made for the purpose	-	Nil.
(3) No. of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	-	Nil.
(4) No. of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub.head.) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation.	-	51

2. Remedy of defects during the Year without service of Formal Notices :-

No. of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the L.A. or their Officers - 38

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year :-

(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:		
(1) No. of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	-	Nil
(2) No. of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :-		
(a) By owners	-	Nil
(b) By L.A. in default of owners	-	Nil
(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts :-		
(1) No. of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	-	60
(2) No. of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :-		
(a) By owners	-	1
(b) By L.A. in default of owners	-	Nil



Housing continued.....

- (c) Proceedings under Sections 11 & 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:
- |                                                                            |   |      |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|------|
| (1) No. of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made | - | Nil. |
| (2) No. of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders    | - | Nil. |
- (d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :
- |                                                                                                                                                     |   |      |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|------|
| (1) No. of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made                                                     | - | Nil. |
| (2) No. of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined the tenement or room having been rendered fit | - | Nil. |

4. Housing Act, 1936 - Part IV - Overcrowding :-

- |                                                                                                                                                                  |   |                |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|----------------|
| (a) (i) No. of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year                                                                                                      | - | No information |
| (b) No. of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year                                                                                                    | - | Nil.           |
| (c) (i) No. of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year                                                                                                    | - | Nil.           |
| (ii) No. of persons concerned in such cases                                                                                                                      | - | Nil.           |
| (d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling houses have again become overcrowded after the local authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding | - | Nil.           |

- |                                                                  |   |    |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|---|----|
| 5. No. of houses inspected for use in connection with Evacuation | - | 23 |
| No. of inspections made                                          | - | 45 |
| No. of properties requisitioned by the Council for Evacuees      | - | 65 |

J. INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(a) Milk Supply

- |                                                                            |   |      |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|------|
| No. of persons on Register at the end of 1945                              | - | 197  |
| No. of Dairy Farms and other Dairy premises on Register at the end of 1945 | - | 199  |
| No. of Dairy Farms inspected during 1945                                   | - | 30   |
| No. of inspections                                                         | - | 36   |
| No. of Notices served                                                      | - | 4    |
| No. of Notices complied with                                               | - | 4    |
| No. of Milkshops inspected during 1945                                     | - | Nil. |
| No. of inspections                                                         | - | Nil. |
| No. of Notices served                                                      | - | Nil. |
| No. complied with                                                          | - | Nil. |

(b) Meat and other Foods

- |                                |   |       |
|--------------------------------|---|-------|
| No. of Post-Mortem inspections | - | 33102 |
|--------------------------------|---|-------|





Inspection and Supervision of Food continued.....

(c) Carcases Inspected and Condemned  
Inspections carried out at Bacon Factories in the District.

	Cattle exclu. Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs
Number killed (if known)					40760
No. inspected					33102
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis</u> Whole carcase condemned					1
Carcase of which some part or organ was condemned					113
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis					.33%
<u>Tuberculosis only</u> Whole carcasses condemned					116
Carcase of which some part or organ was condemned					2,541
Percentage of the no. inspected affected with Tuberculosis					8.2%

Number of Inspections carried out at :-

- (a) Premises registered for the manufacture of ice cream or prepared meals etc. - Nil.
- (b) Food premises (otherwise subject to the Food & Drugs Act, 1938) - 33
- (c) No. of Notices served - Nil.
- (d) No. of Notices complied with - Nil.

K. SANITARY INSPECTIONS IN CONNECTION WITH INFECTIOUS DISEASE

No. of visits of investigation carried out on cases of infectious disease during the year - 7

No. of disinfections (of houses or contents) carried out on cases of infectious disease during the year - 9



Sanitary Inspections in connection with Infectious Disease cont....

No. of disinfestations of house or contents carried out on account of Scabies during the year - Nil.

Average cost to local authority of each disinfestation (if known) - 15/-d approx.

L. PREVALANCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis)

Disease	Total Cases Notified	Cases admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Lobar Pneumonia	1	-	-
Acute Primary Pneumonia	3	-	-
Influenzal Pneumonia	3	-	-
Whooping Cough	16	-	-
Scarlet Fever	21	16	-
Measles	122	8	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	-	-
Erysipelas	1	-	-

Tuberculosis

<u>New Cases</u>		<u>Deaths</u>	
<u>Respiratory</u>	<u>Non-Respiratory</u>	<u>Respiratory</u>	<u>Non-Respiratory</u>
6	-	1	-

M. IMMUNISATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA.

	<u>Under 5</u>	<u>Over 5</u>	<u>Total</u>
No. of children who completed full course of treatment in the year	77	2	79
Approximate estimated number of children in the area protected on 30th. June, 1945.	74%	91%	

N.F. Pearson  
Medical Officer of Health.

